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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
IRAQI AGGRESSION AND THE CONTINUED
OCCUPATION OF KUWAIT IN FLAGRANT
VIOLATION OF THE CHARTER OF THE
UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 14 January 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith, in English and French, the text of the declaration on the Gulf question issued today by the European Community and its 12 member States.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 35 and 153, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Jean FEYDER
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Declaration on the Gulf crisis published in Brussels on 14 January 1991 by the Twelve States members of the European Community

Following a meeting between the President of the Council and the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the European Community were informed of the substance of the conversations of Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar with the President and Foreign Minister of Iraq.

They note that the Secretary-General will this evening report on his mission to the Security Council of the United Nations, which will have the task of evaluating the results.

For their part, the Community and its member States have from the beginning of the Gulf crisis supported unreservedly the full and unconditional implementation of the relevant resolutions of the Security Council.

They have spared no effort in exploring all paths to a peaceful solution in conformity with these resolutions. In this spirit, the European Community had made known its readiness to meet at the level of the troika of Foreign Ministers the Iraqi Foreign Minister, Mr. Tariq Aziz, first in the Presidency capital and then in Algiers.

Through the Presidency statement of 4 January 1991, the Twelve had clearly indicated that if the resolutions of the Security Council were fully and unconditionally implemented, Iraq should receive the assurance that it would not be subject to a military intervention.

In the same statement, the Twelve had also clearly reaffirmed their commitment to contribute actively to the settlement of the other problems of the region and to establish a situation of security, stability and development, as soon as the Gulf crisis is resolved.

On the occasion of the Rome European Council on 15 December 1990, the European Community and its member States had indicated that they remained completely in favour of the convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East at the appropriate moment.

It is a fact that unfortunately must be acknowledged that the readiness thus displayed to contribute to a peaceful solution of the crisis opening the way to an equitable settlement of all the other problems of the region has not, up to this point, received a response from the Iraqi authorities.

In the face of the continued refusal of the Iraqi authorities to implement the resolutions of the Security Council and in the absence of any signal in this sense, the European Community and its member States regret to have to conclude that the conditions for a new European initiative do not exist as at this moment.

Nevertheless, the invitation to Mr. Tariq Aziz to meet the ministerial troika remains on the table.

The European Community and its member States are conscious of having done everything that was possible to find a peaceful exit from the crisis. They remain determined to explore all possibilities for the preservation of peace in the respect of international legality. In this context, they request Arab countries and organizations to continue to devote every effort to bringing the Iraqi authorities to understand that it is in the interest of Iraq, as of the whole Arab world, that it should abide by the resolutions of the Security Council.

Ministers have asked the Presidency to stay in close contact with all parties concerned.

Ministers and their political directors will remain in permanent touch in the coming days to follow the course of the crisis and take any necessary decisions.